

Vector Differential Equations: Defective Coefficient Matrix

Def: Let A be an n by n matrix, and it has m eigenvectors where $m < n$. Then A is called a defective matrix.

Ex: Solve $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$ where a) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -8 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

b)
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -9 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

What if Eigenvalue of multiplicity three: Say a matrix A has eigenvalue of multiplicity 3 with eigenvector \vec{K} .

Then we have:
$$\begin{cases} (A - \lambda I)\vec{K} = \vec{0} \\ (A - \lambda I)\vec{P} = \vec{K} \\ (A - \lambda I)\vec{Q} = \vec{P} \end{cases}$$

Then the general solution:

$$\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \vec{x}_1 + C_2 \vec{x}_2 + C_3 \vec{x}_3$$

where $\vec{x}_1 = e^{\lambda t} \vec{K}$; $\vec{x}_2 = e^{\lambda t} (\vec{P} + t\vec{K})$ and $\vec{x}_3 = e^{\lambda t} \left(\vec{Q} + t\vec{P} + \frac{t^2}{2!} \vec{K} \right)$

That means: the solution:
$$\vec{x}(t) = C_1 e^{\lambda t} \vec{K} + C_2 e^{\lambda t} (\vec{P} + t\vec{K}) + C_3 e^{\lambda t} \left(\vec{Q} + t\vec{P} + \frac{t^2}{2!} \vec{K} \right)$$

d) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

e) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$